

Message Text

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USCINCEUR
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 0417

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJ: EWG MEETING JANUARY 24, AGENDA ITEM II: NATO FLEXIBILITY
STUDY

REF: 76 USNATO 4939 (DTG 101849Z SEP 76)

SUMMARY: THE EWG MET ON JANUARY 24 TO ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPELEMNTING THE NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE NORTHERN REGION, SOUTHERN REGION, AND MARITIME REPORTS. THE GROUP DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM OF MONITORING PROGRESS ON RECOMMENDATIONS BETWEEN THE TIME OF THE CURRENT ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE TIME OF THE PREPARATION OF THE REPORT DUE ON SPRING 1977. IN RESPONSE TH THE DUTCH REP'S (WYNAENDTS) CONCERN, THE CHAIRMAN (SYG PANSAN) ASSURED THE GROUP THAT THE EWG'S CURRENT TASK WAS ONLY TO ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITIES, NOT TO PASS JUDGMENT ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS. THE TURKISH REP (TOPUR) PROPOSED A SERIES OF POLITICAL GUIDELINES TO BE FOLLOWED WHEN CONFIDENTIAL

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SIDERING RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN REGION REPORT PERTAINING TO GREEK FORCES. THE NORWEGIAN REP (HEIDENSTROEM) OBJECTED TO NATO CONSIDERATION OF MARITIME REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS DEALING WITH SPANISH MEMBERSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH NATO. US REP (LEGERE) TABLED FOR CONSIDERATION A FEW IDEAS ON HOW TO HELP PROMOTE THE FLEXIBILITY EFFORTS. PANSAN APPEARED TO BE WORKING FOR AREVITALIZED ROLE FOR THE EWG. GUIDANCE ON THE TURKISH PROPOSED GUIDELINES WILL BE REQUESTED BY SEPTTEL. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PURPOSE OF THE EWG MEETING WAS TO ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE NATO FLEXIBILITY REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE NORTHERN REGION, SOUTHERN REGION, AND MARITIME REPORTS, AS HAD BEEN DONE EARLIER FOR THE CENTRAL REGION REPORT.

2. BEFORE THE EWG STARTED A SEPARATE REVIEW OF THE RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENTS, THE DUTCH REP RESERVED THE NETHERLANDS' POSITION ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE EWG WAS ONLY ASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS AT THIS TIME, AND WAS NOT PASSING ON THEIR SUBSTANCE, WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH BY THE APPROPRIATE BODIES AT A FUTURE TIME.

3. THE MILITARY COMMITTEE REP (MGENTORP) NOTED THE EWG INTENDED TO PROVIDE OVERVIEW OF THE NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDY BY BEING ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE INITIAL ASSIGNMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND IN THE FINAL REPORTING. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT A SUPERVISORY VOID MIGHT OCCUR BETWEEN THESE TWO PHASES AND ANNOUNCED MC INTENT TO EXERCISE POSITIVE OVERSIGHT DURING THAT INTERVAL. THE CHAIRMAN, SUPPORTED BY ASYG MUMFORD, DUTCH REP, UK REP (PETERS), AND FRG REP (BGEN SCHUENEMANN), CONSIDERED THERE WAS LESS DANGER OF A VOID THAN THE MC FEARED, POINTING OUT THAT RECOMMENDATIONS WERE BEING ASSIGNED TO RESPONSIBLE SENIOR LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS THAT COULD BE TRUSTED TO ACT CONSCIENTIOUSLY ON THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RECOMMENDATIONS. THE RESPONSIBLE AGENCY WOULD ELEVATE ANY PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT SURFACE TO THE EWG FOR CONSIDERATION. ALL REPRESENTATIVES CALLED FOR HARMONIOUS RELATIONS AMONG THE ACTION AUTHORITIES, AND THE MC REP NOTE THE MC'S INTENTION TO REPORT TO THE DPC ANY PROBLEMS IT OBSERVED.

4. AT THE START OF THE REVIEW OF SOUTHERN REGION ASSIGNMENTS, THE TURKISH REP READ A PREPARED STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID THAT, IN REMITTING THE SOUTHERN REGION ASSIGNMENTS, THE TURKISH REP READ A PREPARED STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID THAT, IN REMITTING THE SOUTHERN REGION STUDY TO APPROPRIATE NATO BODIES OR COMMITTEES, THE EWG SHOULD PROVIDE THESE BODIES WITH POLITICAL GUIDANCE DERIVATIVE FROM GREECE'S STATUS OUTSIDE NATO'S INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE (TEXT AND COMMENT IN SEPTEL).

5. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT GREEK-NATO NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT SOON BEGIN IN ANOTHER BODY. HE DOUBTED THAT DELEGATIONS WERE READY TO DEAL WITH THE TURKISH STATEMENT AND SAID THE EWG SHOULD MEET AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO CONSIDER THE PROBLEMS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE TURKISH REP, HOPEFULLY IN LIGHT OF THE NATO-GREECE NEGOTIATIONS THAT MIGHT SOON BEGIN. THE TURKISH REP AGREED TO INTERIM PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS ALLOWING THE EWG TO ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITIES

AND PERMITTING WORK TO START, WHILE PRESERVING THE TURKISH POSITION BY PERHAPS FOOTNOTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNED WITH STATEMENTS COVERING THE POINTS IN THE TURKISH INTERVENTION.

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6. THE NORWEGIAN REP, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, OBJECTED TO ANY DISCUSSION IN NATO OF THE MARITIME STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING NATO MEMBERSHIP FOR OR NATO COOPERATION WITH, SPAIN. THE US REP (LEGERE) NOTED THAT THE HAD ATTENDED SESSIONS OF BODIES SENIOR TO THE EWG WHERE THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD SAID PERMREPS COULD DISCUSS ANY SUBJECT. HE ASKED THE CHAIRMAN IF THE SAME POLICY DID NOT APPLY IN THE EWG. THE CHAIRMAN ASKED THE NORWEGIAN REP TO CONVEY TO HIS AUTHORITIES THAT DISCUSSION OF A SUBJECT BY A NATO BODY DOES NOT PREJUDGE THE MATTER.

7. THE US REP SUGGESTED THAT TWO WAYS TO HELP PROMOTE THE FLEXIBILITY STUDY WOULD BE FOR THE DRC TO CONSIDER (A) INCLUDING IN THE DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE APPROPRIATE DIRECTION FOR THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO INCORPORATE THE FLEXIBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE FORCE GOUAL PROPOSALS, AND (B) INCLUDING IN THE 1977 DEFENSE PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE A REQUIREMENT FOR COUNTRIES TO REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARD IMPLEMENTING MAJOR LOW-COST/NO-COST RECOMMENDATIONS. THE EWG REPS, EXCEPT FOR TURKEY, AGREED WITH THE US SUG-
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GESTION. TURKEY WOULD, IN EFFECT, NOT AGREE TO ANY POSITION WHICH MIGHT IMPLY ITS ACCEPTANCE OF GREECE-RELATED RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE FLEXIBILITY REPORT ON THE SOUTHERN REGION.

7. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT THE EWG MEETING, PANSА EMPHASIZED THE ACTIVE ROLE HE EXPECTED THE EWG TO EXERCISE IN IMPLEMENTING THE NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDY AND IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL. IT APPEARS PANSА INTENDS TO REVITALIZE THE EWG DURING THE MONTHS AHEAD. END COMMENT. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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